

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SPEECH OF MSI-DN NATIONAL SECRETARY ALMIRANTE IN
PALERMO MARCH 14

1. SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1976, MSI-DN NATIONAL SECRETARY
GIORGIO ALMIRANTE ADDRESSED AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD OF ABOUT
2,500 PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND CLASSES INCLUDING PROFESSIONALS
AND LARGE NUMBERS OF WELL-DRESSED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

2. ALMIRANTE CAME TO PALERMO WITH A SURPRISE. SILVIO
MILAZZO, THE 72-YEAR OLD FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE REGION, WHO
SAT AT ALMIRANTE'S RIGHT, WAS PRESENT AS THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS
ADHERENT OF THE RECENTLY CREATED "COSTITUENTE DI DESTRA". IN
VAGUE TERMS ALMIRANTE DESCRIBED THIS NEW ORGANIZATION AS AN
EFFORT TO GATHER TOGETHER THOSE OF DIVERSE POLITICAL
AFFILIATIONS BUT WHO SHARE WITH THE MSI-DN A WILLINGNESS
TO FIGHT COMMUNISM.

3. ALMIRANTE'S FREQUENT ATTACKS ON CROOKED POLITICIANS
AND PUBLIC THEFT BROUGHT LONG APPLAUSE, AS DID HIS
ANECDOTE RECALLING HIS U.S. TRIP AND THE SURPRISE AND
DELIGHT OF THREE AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN WHEN HE SAID HE DID
NOT COME TO AMERICA TO ASK FOR MONEY. ALMIRANTE UNDERLINED
THE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THE PRESENT PRO-COMMUNIST MOOD
OF BOTH THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT AS OPPOSED TO
THE CONSERVATIVE TRENDSET BY THE PEOPLE IN 1971 REGIONAL
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ELECTIONS AND IN THE 1972 POLITICAL ELECTION WHEN THE MSI-DN

DOUBLED ITS REPRESENTATION IN THE SICILIAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY AND IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENT. HE ALSO WARNED THE AUTHORITIES AGAINST A NATION-WIDE SUBVERSIVE THREAT DIRECTED AT THE CARABINIERI AND THE YOUTH OF THE MSI-DN.

4. AT ONE POINT DURING HIS SPEECH, ALMIRANTE RECEIVED AN UNEXPECTED REACTION AS HE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE CARABINIERI CORPS AND SPECIFICALLY THE 2 YOUNG CARABINIERI RECENTLY MURDERED AT ALCAMO: THE AUDIENCE ROSE AS ONE AND APPLAUDED AT LENGTH.

5. COMMENT: STRANGE THAT ALMIRANTE WAS ABLE TO PRESENT ONLY ONE ADHERENT TO THE "COSTITUENTE DI DESTRA" ALBEIT AN ILLUSTRIOUS ONE. ALMIRANTE IS A GIFTED SPEAKER AND WHILE CAPABLE OF STIRRING CONSIDERABLE RESPONSE, HE FAILED TO COME UP WITH ANYTHING LIKE A PROGRAM, LIMITING HIMSELF TO HAMMERING AWAY AT ANTI-COMMUNISM AND ALL THE FAULTS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN POWER. CHIAVARINI

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